

## Gas-Saving Tips

The rising price of gasoline is affecting nearly everyone these days, prompting many to wonder “What can I do to save gas?” There are actually many things you can do to conserve costly gasoline. Following is a list of tips on how to save money, fuel, and energy by improving gas mileage.

1. Walk, bike, take a bus or carpool whenever possible. If you own more than one automobile, drive the one that gets the best gas mileage.
2. Combine your errands into one trip, and consolidate trips to destinations close to one another. Plan your errands so you won't have to retrace your route, and once you arrive, park and walk between destinations.
3. Don't leave your car idling. If drive-through lines are too long, you can save gas by turning off the car, or parking and going inside. Limit car warm-ups on cold mornings.
4. The wind is free. Use your car's air conditioner sparingly, rolling down windows and taking advantage of the breeze when the heat is bearable.
5. Avoid “jackrabbit” starts by accelerating gradually whenever possible, and anticipate stops to avoid sudden braking.
6. Remove unneeded items from your car or trunk, since the extra weight decreases gas mileage. Also, place necessary items inside the car or trunk instead of on roof racks to reduce drag.
7. Slow down. Your gas mileage can increase by 15 percent if you drive at 55 mph instead of at 65 mph.
8. If your car is equipped with overdrive gearing, use the overdrive gear as soon as your speed is high enough. If you have a manual transmission, remember that the lower the shift speed, the better the fuel economy.
9. Keep your tires properly aligned and inflated.
10. Get regular tune-ups to avoid fuel economy problems due to worn spark plugs, dragging brakes, low transmission fluid, etc.

For more driving tips or information on fuel-efficient vehicles, view *The Model Year 2004 Fuel Economy Guide* at [www.fueleconomy.gov](http://www.fueleconomy.gov).